

205 Elmwood Avenue
Burlington, VT 05401

March 21, 2023

Representative Thomas Stevens
Chair, House General & Housing Committee
Vermont House of Representatives

Dear Representative Stevens,

I am writing in regards to H. 184. My husband and I have owned and lived in a duplex for the last 13 years. During that time we have followed the requirements for lead Essential Maintenance Practices (EMP), and we participated in the Burlington Lead Program to remove sources of lead dust in the duplex. We are proud to maintain safe and clean buildings and grounds for our own family and for our tenant.

I strongly urge you to pass H. 184. The extreme and unnecessary financial burden that the Health Department rules would impose will only serve to raise rents, disempower property owners, and put further strain on an already stressed construction sector. Anyone who has tried to hire a contractor in recent times knows how hard it is to find available help. I fear that the Health Department Rules would only cause unsafe conditions (deteriorating lead paint) to last much longer, while property owners who otherwise could have made the repairs themselves wait for a licensed worker to become available.

Please place this letter in the Committee's public record for consideration of H.184. I thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Colby Crehan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Columbia "Colby" Crehan